

# the IOWA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF howlbeat



20

**Number of forms  
parents were spared  
from completing at  
registration**

## One giant leap for ISD

### Families utilize new registration system

It was a small step for the ISD website, and a giant leap for Iowa School for the Deaf.

Registration for school year 18/19 offered a new online option for Iowa School for the Deaf parents. Those who were able to register their children saved themselves from reviewing and signing about 20 information and permission papers and forms, according to Lindsey Jenkins, high school secretary.

Jenkins mailed paper forms to parents who requested them. Additionally, a handful of forms, such as the health questionnaire, still needed to be completed on paper.

Parents who did not have internet access could use computers at school when they brought students to an open house the night before school began.

This year, families could check-in at the school buildings instead

*continued inside*

## Memories earn invitation

By the very nature of her name, Autumn Winter understands there are seasons to life. And no, her middle name is not Spring. "It's Hali," the ISD 2018 grad states with a half-grin and good-natured eye roll.



It was the experience writing about her grandmother's last season of life which earned her an invitation to be

published in a book of submitted works. Read Winter's poem and learn more [here](#) or visit [iowaschoolforthe deaf.org](http://iowaschoolforthe deaf.org) and scroll down to view the Prowler. ■



**Feeling cranky – Fifth grader Levi Kruse flattens clay through the slab roller at the new campus clay studio. Kruse and classmates are working on decorative Day of the Dead clay skulls.**

# Giant leap

Continued from front

of waiting in lines at the Lied Multipurpose Complex. "Parents liked how personal it was," said Rebecca Gaw, ISD principal. "They could see the classrooms and meet the teachers. There were less lines."

Just like Apollo 11's landing on the moon, ISD's new registration experienced a few hiccups, too. A dozen school staff met after registration to assess what went well and where improvements are needed.



**"We made the right first step."**

**– Rebecca Gaw  
ISD principal**

Next year, signs will help direct parents as to where various campus buildings are located, and there will be a checklist so families know what departments they need to visit. More Spanish translators will be on hand. New strategies will be developed to obtain completed forms faster from parents who did not utilize the online option.

"We made a step forward this year, even though there are things we can improve," said Gaw. "We made the right first step." ■



Student Life's new video is [here](#)! Or visit our YouTube channel: Iowa School for the Deaf.

**ISD faculty and staff spread puffs of joy onto participants in the first-ever ISD Homecoming Color Run.**



## Pass the word- mainstream students welcome!

Academic and student life departments are at it again Their creative learning and social events for ISD students are being **offered to area students who are deaf or hard of hearing**. At September's homecoming event, national presenter Dack Virnig held a student workshop, and an outdoor color run was a highlight of an otherwise bleak homecoming eve. Student life sponsored a night at Vala's Pumpkin Patch, and there is still time to register for their Halloween bonfire and party scheduled for Oct. 29! Click [here](#) or click the calendar icon at the top of our website at [iowaschoolforthe deaf.org](http://iowaschoolforthe deaf.org).

## We are under the microscope this fall.

ISD is due for its voluntary accreditation by the Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and programs for the Deaf (CEASD). This intense review is conducted by CEASD members who review all components of ISD's programming- including student life. You may have or will be receiving surveys to help us measure our strengths and areas of needed improvement.

**The site visit is tentatively scheduled for March 31 - April 5.**

**Please complete the surveys at your earliest opportunity.**

## Dedicated trio



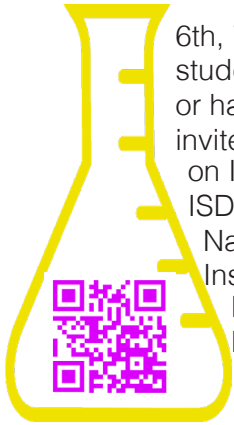
Among the employees recognized this fall for years of service at Iowa School for the Deaf were a trio of faculty who have each worked here more than three decades. Left to right are 40-year faculty members Dan Gradoville (vocational and driver's education), and Jane Gradoville (elementary school guidance counselor); and Cheryl Banks (high school speech language pathologist) with 35 years of service.



# STEM

## days at isd

### NOV. 15 & 16, 2018

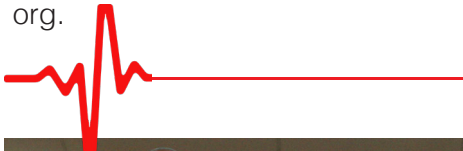


6th, 7th and 8th grade students who are deaf or hard of hearing: are invited to STEM Days on ISD's campus.

ISD is partnering with National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) and Deaf Kids Code to bring science,

technology, engineering and math concepts to mainstream and ISD students.

Students will be making their own solar cell phone charger. Registration available at [iowaschoolforthe deaf.org](http://iowaschoolforthe deaf.org) or [here](#). Questions? Video phone: 712-227-1726 Office phone: 712.366.3237 or [ljenkins@iowaschoolforthe deaf.org](mailto:ljenkins@iowaschoolforthe deaf.org).



**In the pounce** — Joining our staff this fall are (back row, left to right) Mack Weyers, overnight houseparent, Denise Arbogast, bus driver; Jay Bakke, cook; Chris Nipper, work experience coordinator (front row, left to right) Jenna Frink, speech language pathologist; Lauren Becker, school assistant; and Jodyann Nipper, residential counselor. Not pictured: Susan Trumble, school assistant.

## Right up their alley



The ISD Special Olympics bowlers are preparing for the state competition in Council Bluffs Nov. 18. The team has already participated in local events (Ryan Harvey, above, holds his 2nd place ribbon).

Iowa School for the Deaf participants in the November contest besides Harvey are:

Kynnedi Anderson, Tom Naumann, Kayla Satterfield, David Schrieber, Nathan Stacey, Lizbet Vaca, Karina Vallin and Ashley Vera.

**Cheer for them at the Council Bluffs Thunderbowl!**

## Employee news



Welcome to **Julie Meyer**, who joined the ISD staff in October. Meyer is secretary for the deaf resource center, statewide consultant and outreach departments.

We raise our mugs of caffeine to congratulate these new sleep-deprived parents: Metals technology teacher **Scott Versch**, new dad to Lillian May Versch, born June 21; elementary secretary **Brooke O'Reilly**, new mom to Savannah Elaine O'Reilly, born July 23; and middle school teacher **Justin Cyboron**, new dad to Charlotte Mae Cyboron, born Oct. 9.

**Jacob Bradley**, school assistant, married **Abigail Swartz**, speech language pathologist, June 30. Abigail has changed her last name to Bradley.

**Megan Minatra**, high school English & language arts teacher, married Jake Shama July 7. Megan has changed her last name to Shama.

We express our sympathy to high school teacher **Roxie Stevens**, whose sister passed away in August.

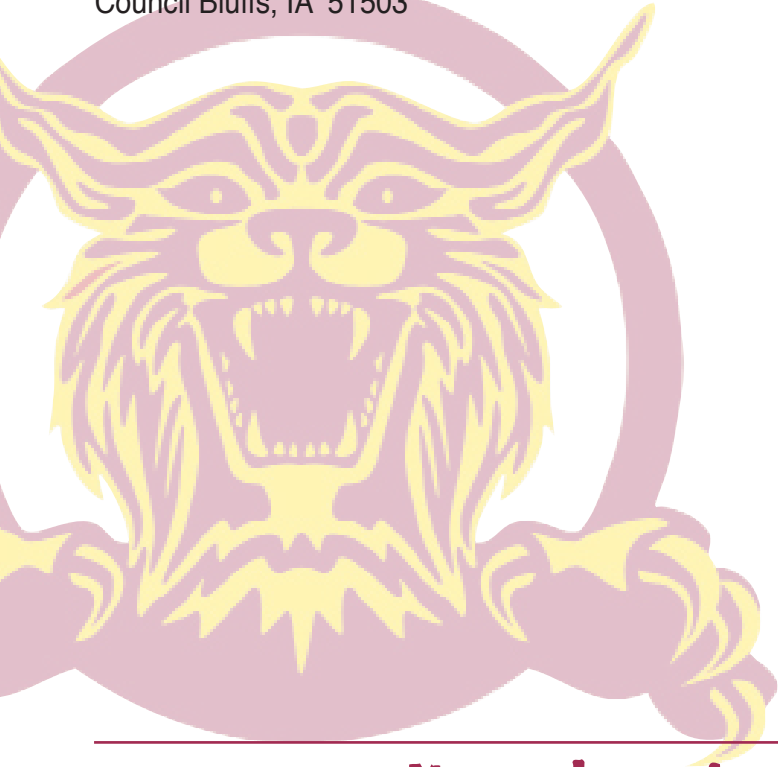
We remember long-term employee and substitute teacher **Lois Carlson**, who died in September.

Changes in departments or positions: **Bryce Hendricks** (formerly a high school teacher) is now assistant principal; **Julie Baker** (formerly a houseparent) is now a residential counselor; **Jon Simmons** (formerly school assistant) is now a residential counselor; **Kristi Wills** (formerly with the 4PLUS transition program) is now high school counselor.

**Bobcat Boutique is Nov. 3! Get a jump on your holiday shopping and help the Class of 2021 at the same time! 9 a.m - 3 p.m., LMC. Click [HERE](#) for details or visit [iowaschoolforthe deaf.org](http://iowaschoolforthe deaf.org).**



3501 Harry Langdon Boulevard  
Council Bluffs, IA 51503



**bobcat**  
October  
2018

## New clay studio takes shape

“**C**oncentration, motivation, expression... I could go on for days,” says Sarah Wiberg, ISD art teacher. She is listing some outcomes students gain from the new campus clay studio. The space opened this fall, in an unused area

ISD senior CJ Autery learns persistence pays off at the wheel.



formed when Long Hall Science Center was opened in 2010.

Wiberg, an experienced itinerant teacher of the deaf, joined ISD's faculty in the fall of 2017. She began pitching the benefits of a clay art component almost since last school year began. Wiberg discovered ISD previously offered ceramics for students, and saw evidence of greenware molds, an old kiln and other supplies still existed in storage on campus.

After much research and presenting cost estimates to school administration, Wiberg's dream was a reality. “It was a lot of work, but I felt it was important for an art program to include ceramics,” she said.

The space includes a separate kiln room (to prevent fumes from entering the classroom), several pottery wheels and the essential clean-up sink.

Open to students 4th grade and older, Wiberg said the younger students ask to go to the studio every day. “I can't imagine what the 4th graders will be making when they are high school seniors!” she said.

Whatever those future seniors create, during the process they will be learning vocabulary, using math skills, thinking critically and communicating.

**“Even with clay all over our hands, we ask questions, provide ideas and more.”**

– Sarah Wiberg, ISD art teacher

